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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q78309

Yutaka TOSAKI, *et al.*

Allowed: January 30, 2006

Appln. No.: 10/701,496

Group Art Unit: 1771

Confirmation No.: 7626

Examiner: Daniel R. ZIRKER

Filed: November 6, 2003

For: PRESSURE-SENSITIVE ADHESIVE TAPE OR SHEET

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION MAILED MAY 12, 2006**

**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants are in receipt of an Office communication mailed May 12, 2006.

The Office communication indicates that U.S. Patent No. 5,571,617, which was listed in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed March 2, 2006, has not been considered, because the Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) submitted with the IDS on March 2, 2006, is said to be improper.

However, MPEP §609.04(b) states as follows:

if an information disclosure statement includes a copy of a dated communication from a foreign patent office which clearly shows that the statement is being submitted within 3 months of the date on the communication, the copy will be accepted as the required statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

Applicants submitted a copy of a First Office Action from the Patent Office of the People's Republic of China (and a translation thereof) along with the IDS filed March 2, 2006. Copies of the Chinese-language Office Action and translation thereof have been received by the

RESPONSE TO COMMUNICATION  
U.S. Appln. No. 10/701,496

PTO and made of record, as evidenced by the Image File Wrapper on PAIR. Applicants refer to the pair of "NPL Documents" entries dated March 2, 2006.

The First Office Action clearly shows that the IDS of March 2, 2006, was submitted within 3 months of the date on the communication (December 30, 2005).

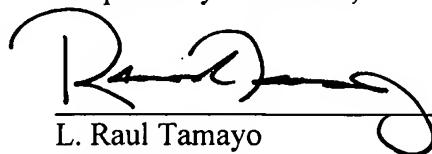
Accordingly, the copies of the Chinese-language Office Action and translation thereof on record must be accepted as the required statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request: (i) consideration of U.S. Patent No. 5,571,617 and (ii) the return of an initialed and signed copy of the Modified PTO/SB/08 A & B (08-03) form listing U.S. Patent No. 5,571,617.

Counsel for Applicants would like to sincerely thank Supervisory Patent Examiner Morris for his assistance. Mr. Morris confirmed that U.S. Patent No. 5,571,617 has been properly certified in accordance with MPEP §609.04(b).

At Mr. Morris' suggestion, Applicants are submitting herewith a clean copy of the Modified PTO/SB/08 A & B (08-03) form listing U.S. Patent No. 5,571,617 first submitted with the IDS on March 2, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



L. Raul Tamayo  
Registration No. 47,125

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
23373  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: June 16, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/701,496
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Confirmation Number	7626
(use as many sheets as necessary)		Filing Date	November 6, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Yutaka TOSAKI
		Art Unit	1771
		Examiner Name	Daniel R. ZIRKER
		Attorney Docket Number	Q78309
Sheet	1	of	1
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PTO-13			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.